

February 2015

DSDHH Newsletter



➤ **WELCOME TO OUR ONLINE ISSUE!**



20th Year

Robert G Sanderson Community Center
of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
5709 South 1500 West Taylorsville, UT 84123-5217

This information, presentation, class or other activity is provided at the Sanderson Community Center for interested individuals. The Sanderson Community Center staff encourages participants and individuals to consider all options and experiences and does not endorse nor recommend this specific information, presentation, activity or any individual class, product or service.



By Melanie Sperry

Do you ever wonder why you should sign in at the Sanderson Center when you visit?

This is a commonly asked question at the front desk. I wanted to share WHY we ask visitors to the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program to sign their names.

The Division of Services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DSDHH) operates these two facilities through state funding. As a State agency we are given a yearly budget of taxpayer monies to provide services and maintain the facilities. To show the benefit of the services needed and provided at taxpayer expense, we provide yearly reports to the Board of Education and Utah State Legislature that includes the number of people who come to the variety of classes, social events and other activities. Additionally, names are collected in order to count the number of people and number of services provided - all names are kept private. These numbers are important to justify the need to receive funding each year, or to create new programs or services. If our numbers increase every year, it shows that the community benefits from the services and events provided by DSDHH. If our numbers decrease, legislators may think our services are no longer needed.

The legislators are very powerful people. If they get an idea that our services are not needed, or our funding could be used elsewhere, or another agency could provide the services with hearing folks, they could submit a Bill and make changes to our funding or our programs. Unless community members step forward to educate legislators on the need for these services, and we have numbers to support our request for continued funding or more funding to expand programs, we won't get the money. We thank so many of you in the community who worked closely with Senators and Representatives to educate them about your perspective, your experience as a Deaf or Hard of Hearing person, and your needs which helps to get funding for the building of the Sanderson Community Center facility and its programs. We want to keep the Sanderson Community Center and Southern Utah location as our second homes for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community! You can help support requests for on-going or new funding for the division by signing in at the front desk, and following announcements about issues that could impact you as a community. Read the newspapers and watch the news on television to learn of the issues that the Legislative Session 2015 will be dealing with, become involved in communicating with your elected officials and continue to visit the Sanderson Community Center and the Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program.

Here is my explanation of why it is important to sign in each time you visit one of the two locations. Help us keep our second homes open!

The Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing appreciates our volunteers' generosity and involvement and realize volunteers are very crucial to our mission. We are excited to share with you that we recently redesigned our volunteer program so that it will be more effective for our volunteers, and for our community.

We aspire to provide our volunteers with better training, more leadership opportunities, and skill development. If you are interested in volunteering with us, please fill out our volunteer application online:
www.deafservices.utah.gov/volunteer/application.

Thank you for your support!

Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is looking for

volunteers

Why volunteer?

- ¹⁴/₇ Give back to the community
- ¹⁴/₇ Meet people
- ¹⁴/₇ Live a healthier lifestyle
- ¹⁴/₇ Support a group or organization
- ¹⁴/₇ Practice signing!

Who can volunteer?

- ¹⁴/₇ Deaf & Hard of Hearing & Deaf/Blind
- ¹⁴/₇ Families with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children
- ¹⁴/₇ Children of Deaf Adults (CODAs)
- ¹⁴/₇ ASL students

YOU can become a volunteer!

How to become a volunteer: Step 1: Apply Online

www.deafservices.utah.gov/volunteer/application Step

2: Interview

Step 3: Background check

Step 4: Start volunteering!

Contact Mary Beth Baierl: mbaierl@utah.gov





VITA Tax Preparation Assistance

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

VITA tax preparation at the Sanderson Center starts January 30 through April 10, 2015 – Friday mornings at 8:45, 9:45, or 10:45. To schedule a Friday morning appointment, call 801-657-5200 (vp) or email dsdhhschedule@utah.gov and put “tax appointment” in the subject line. In St. George, visitors are welcome to use a computer to file taxes using one of the options below.

The Sanderson Center has partnered with the Community Action Partnership of Utah (CAP Utah) to volunteer help people submit their annual tax returns to the Internal Revenue Service and Utah State Tax Commission. The Sanderson Center volunteers can communicate with Deaf individuals in ASL, or provide assistive listening devices for people who are Hard of Hearing. All services are free, and available to those who qualify.

Do you know...

- You can file your taxes on-line on your own for free? If your household income is less than \$60,000, you have an email address and your tax documents, accessing a computer with internet you can file yourself for free starting at www.irs.gov/freefile or at www.UtahTaxHelp.org beginning January 20.
 - If you don't have a computer at home the Sanderson Center has computers you can use, just contact Melanie Sperry at the front desk to see if the Computer Lab in Classroom A is available in Salt Lake, or contact Meredith Poole to use a computer in St. George.
- Do you financially support Grandma and Grandpa? An adult child can claim their parents (or a disabled adult family member) if they provide over 50% of their parents support, even if the parents live in a care facility or in their own separate home?
- Parents who have children in college can still claim their children as dependents even if the child lives away from home to attend college? They can also claim non-reimbursed tuition expenses for the first four years of going to school at least half-time pursuing a degree or similar education credential. Other conditions apply but worth investigating.
- If you are under age 65, you do not have to file taxes because you are single and earned less than \$10,150 last year in reportable income. It's under \$20,300 for a couple, or \$11,700 for a single person over age 65 (couple \$22,700).

- If you don't earn enough to be required to file from the amounts above - you may want to file a form anyway to get back any money that an employer has withheld from your paycheck, and you may also qualify for Earned Income Credit.
- Earned Income Credit (EIC) is considered the federal government's greatest anti-poverty effort.
- People are strongly encouraged to **save their refund to buy a home, go to school, start a business, pay down debt or improve FICO credit score**. Please visit the "Earn it. Keep it. Save it." website at <http://utahtaxhelp.org/>.
- Do you plan to file as "married filing separately" because one spouse owes money to the government and the other doesn't? When you file "married filing separately" you are automatically disallowed credits such as the earned income credit (EIC). To take advantage of the EIC credit and the best refund, the couple can file "married filing jointly" to qualify for credits, then submit an "injured spouse" form. This means the spouse that does not owe money will receive their refund even though their spouse owes the government.
- Do you operate a business at home and want to write off the expense of half of your house, the use of your car, or claim the income from rental property you own? Sorry, but VITA program volunteers can't help you file your taxes. You could purchase tax preparation software, go to a paid preparer, or if your household income is below \$60,000 you can use the free on-line filing at www.utahtaxhelp.org, or other free tax on-line filing programs available at <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Free-File:-Do-Your-Federal-Taxes-for-Free>.
- Will VITA protect me if the IRS performs an audit? No, the volunteers are limited in services they perform and rely upon information you provide. If you forget to bring a form, forget to report some income, or claim some deductions without any backup documentation - you would be subject to fines and penalties assessed by the IRS.
- Can I pay for my taxes at the VITA site? If you wish to choose electronic payment, you can pay the IRS (or receive refund) through your electronic routing number, or you can mail a check directly to the IRS. Volunteers will not accept any money, gifts or tips.

(The conditions for the above have other factors to research, this is meant as an educational tool encouraging individuals to investigate to see what they may qualify for.)

Hard of Hearing Happenings

by Robin Traveller



There is a national and local hard of hearing support group that you can learn more about American with Disabilities Act (ADA). It's has been almost 25 years since the ADA Law was passed.

Below is some basic information of what any hard of hearing or late-deafened individuals and families can do. I subscribe to their bi-monthly Hearing Loss magazine, I love to read it because I can relate to their articles. The January/February issue is about Janet & Sam Trychin. Sam is the originator of the Living Well with Hearing Loss Program. Living with Hearing Loss classes are available at Sanderson Center and some senior centers!

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. The mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy. HLAA's programs and services include:

1. **Information and Support** – There are 48 million people with hearing loss in the US. More than 60,000 individuals with hearing loss or their families have contacted HLAA asking for material, resources, support and referrals. Staff provides personalized responses to requests.
2. **Hearingloss.org** – People find information about hearing aids, hearing loss management, advocacy, cochlear implants and other technology, resources and communication strategies for family and friends.
3. **Hearing Loss Magazine** – This magazine tells real-life stories of people with hearing loss & their families, informs readers of cutting-edge technology, & provides updates about HLAA's advocacy efforts to create a better future for people with hearing loss. The *HLAA e-News* of current events & advocacy news complements the magazine.
4. **Webinars** – Educational webinars are presented by top professionals in the field of hearing loss at a minimum of once per month. Each live webinar is captioned & recorded for replay.
5. **Public Policy and Advocacy** – Dedicated staff advocate for accessible & affordable hearing health care, hearing devices, and hearing implants; access to public and private facilities and transportation; access to educational and entertainment programming; access to telecommunications; and involvement in development of emerging technology. HLAA has representation on corporate advisory boards, government agencies, coalitions, educational institutions and nonprofit organizations.

There's a chapter in Salt Lake City area who meet monthly. Visit www.hearinglossutah.com (click on "follow" on the bottom right hand corner so you can get occasional emails) for more information on meetings and other local events. Family members, spouses, and friends are welcome to come!

Loop Technology

By Jenefer Reudter

At the Sanderson Community Center of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing we are fortunate to have a variety of technology for individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Late Deafened and Hard of Hearing to benefit from: videophones, apps for smart phones for captioned movies, relay services, etc., Computer Access Real-time Translation (CART), UbiDuo devices for those who cannot hear or sign, and various types assistive listening devices. We are always on the lookout for technology that can benefit the community we serve. The Sanderson Center has a built-in induction loop system at several locations to help people who are Hard of Hearing with or without a hearing aid or cochlear implant. The front desk, the Demonstration Lab, and the large Classroom B-C, have recently been upgraded to include a Loop system as well as the large classroom at the Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program (SUDHHP). For many, this may still be a new concept to understand. For others, it is a concept that had made a huge impact already.

To make a difficult explanation simple, it is wiring that has been installed around the outer edges of Classroom B and C underneath the carpet which allows individuals with t-coil capabilities to walk into the room, turn on the t-coil in their cochlear implants or hearing aids, and hear the sound directly through their implants or hearing aids without having to use headphones or neck loops. Those speaking in the room use a microphone and the sound is transmitted from the microphone directly into their hearing aid or cochlear implant. The wireless transmission advantage eliminates background noise that sometimes interferes in a meeting or public place.

If you have t-coil capability on your hearing aids or cochlear implants, come try the loop technology in Classroom B and Classroom C on your next visit to the Sanderson Community Center or SUDHHP! If you are unsure if you have t-coil capability, make an appointment to talk with your audiologist to find out. Some hearing aids and cochlear implants have the t-coil capability but it is not turned on. Turning the t-coil capability on is a simple fix that can be done by your audiologist. We also have headphones available for people who want to try it out and don't have a hearing aid or implant.

Come visit the Sanderson Community Center or SUDHHP and explore this technology that we have available for you including our recently installed Loop Technology!

Available at DSDHH



EMPLOYMENT Enjoyment



RESUME TIPS

When you create your resume, please do the following:

- ❖ **Spell Check, proof-read and proof-read AGAIN!** Employers tend to look for mistakes on resumes and if they see mistakes, they will throw your resume away. Having mistakes on your resume will show them how you'd do your job- with mistakes which is a NO-NO.
- ❖ **Show results, achievements and how you benefited the company-** use measurable numbers and statistics are more powerful than what you did every day.
Examples-
 - "Wrote 25 news releases in a three-week period under daily deadlines"
 - "Increased number of customers served by 10% in 2 months."
 - "Managed a budget of more than \$5,000."
 - "Suggested procedures that decreased average order-processing time from 10 minutes to 5 minutes."
 - "Trained five new employees on restaurant operations procedures."
 - "Recruited 25 members for the student organization:

❖ **Easy to read-** Employers don't have time to try to figure out what your resume is trying to say. Make it easy to read at a quick look. Don't have long paragraphs! Suggestion- use bullet points.

❖ **Change resume to match the job you're applying for-** Employers will notice that you take more time to match your resume to the job posting.

Good luck on your job search!

**Need help finding a job?
Having problems at your job
and need advice?**

Contact me and I can help.

Contact Information:

PAMELA MOWER

Statewide Employment Specialist

Email- pmower@utah.gov

VP- 801-657-5223

Tuesdays: Ogden VR office

M, W, TH and Fri: Taylorsville Deaf
Center office

TBA: Provo

SEWING POTPOURRI

Tic Tac Toe

Taught by,
Robin Traveller



Where:
Sanderson Center
5709 South 1500 West
Taylorsville

February 7, 2015
9am - 4pm

Denim fabric and pattern will be provided for this class.

Students to bring:

- rotary cutter & sharp scissors
- sewing machine, thread, sewing supplies & heavy duty sewing machine needle (denim needle would be great)
- rice, beans, or lentils: depending on what size you want to make

for 4" squares, bring 2 pounds

for 5" squares, bring 3 pounds

- Funnel & measuring cups (to pour rice inside of square)
- 2 yards of rick-rack or $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide ribbon for inner border
- scraps of batting (at least 18" square)
- backing fabric in any color/print (you can use denim)

If you need a sewing machine or to register, please contact
Kathleen Peebler kjpeebler@gmail.com.

This class is taught in ASL. Need any ADA accommodations, please request when you register

Circle of Friends

Cupcakes Decorating



**Come join the fun
in decorating
CUPCAKES!**

Saturday, February 7, 2015
10:00am—2:30pm

Training provided to make and decorate cupcakes. It's
the perfect blend of cake and art and FUN!

LOCATION:
Sanderson
Community Center of the Deaf
& Hard of Hearing
5709 S. 1500 W.
Taylorsville, UT

Deadline to sign up:
February 5, 2015
Contact Rosa Maria:
(VP) 801-590-4888



*Program will be presented in American Sign Language. Please
inform us if you need ADA accommodations by January 31,
2015.*

SAVE THE DATE

Sanderson Community Center
of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
is hosting

*ANNUAL
SURPRISE
EASTER EGG
HUNT*

**Saturday
March 21, 2015**

More information will come soon!



Schedule of Activities

Feb 7th: **Educational Interpreter Performance Assessment (IEIPA)**
@ SUDHHP center 9am-1pm

Feb 11th: **ASL Senior (+45) Social** @
SUDHHP Center 11am-2pm (Potluck)

Feb 12th: **Debt Management Workshop** in ASL @SUDHHP 3:30-5:00

Feb 19th: **Sego Lily Sweetheart Challenge** 6-8pm @ SUDHHP center.
RSVP to ruthe-ellen@slcad.org

Feb 16th: **OFFICE CLOSED**
Presidents Day!

For Free ASL Classes
Please contact us for more info.

Lip Reading Classes
Please contact Peggy Thomson
pgarrison@utah.gov
435-628-5368

SAVE the DATES

March 5th: **Facts about Hearing Service dogs**, presented in ASL
@SUDHHP 3:30-5:00pm
RSVP: meredithwinn@utah.gov
VP 435-216-9305

April 9th: **Feel Good Workshop #3** @ SUDHHP 3:30-5:00pm

February 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						
1	2 Lip Reading Class 	3 ASL Classes	4 ASL Classes	5 ASL Classes	6	7 EIPA 
8	9 	10	11 ASL Senior 45+ Social 	12 Debt Management Workshop 	13	14 BE MY VALENTINE! 
15	16 OFFICE CLOSED President's Day 	17	18	19 Sego Lily's "Sweetheart Challenge"	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 	27	28

Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Pro.
SUDHHP
1067 E. Tabernacle, Suite 10
St George, UT 84770
(435) 673-8974 voice (435) 216-9305 VP
SUDHHP@utah.gov

Remember to always **RSVP** to reserve your spot at any of the activities.
Let us know if you need any ADA accommodations when you RSVP.
Thank you.

Do you get frustrated when you can't understand someone? Harder to hear in the noise of chatter? This class will help you read lips better, to catch what is being said.

Please RSVP. Any questions please contact:
Peggy Thomson:
435-673-8974 or
pgarrison@utah.gov



Starting Febuary 6th - March 27th, 2015
8 Week Course, Every Friday
10 am for one hour.

Free Lip Reading Classes

(Presented in Spoken English)



Held at
Sun River Community Center
4275 Country Club Drive
St. George Utah



ADA Accommodations please inform at the time of RSVP

Debt Management



- How to get out of debt.
- Clues that will snatch you
- Budget Plan
- Open Discussion

**REWARD
\$00.00**

Presented in ASL by Diego Acosta

Please Register dacosta@utah.gov

Southern Utah Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program

1067 East Tabernacle #10

St. George Utah

435-767-0113 vp

February 12, 2015

3:30-5:00pm



Any ADA accommodations please inform us at the time of RSVP

Sunny Side St.



2015 is going to be another fun and busy year for the Southern Utah interpreters. We will have Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program (SUDHHP) quarterly workshops with the first one coming in March. Spoiler alert! It will be on Compassion vs. Compassion Fatigue. You won't want to miss it. We will also continue to partner with the Utah Office of Education (USOE) to bring the EIPA workshops to southern Utah four times a year. Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind (USDB) also stream workshops for the Southern Utah area as well. This year we are also planning on partnering with local interpreter agencies to provide workshops.

All of our workshops are open to certified and non-certified interpreters; this includes Deaf and hearing interpreters. We also would like to make sure that everyone in Utah and the country are welcome. Why not make it a mini vacation to come to one of our workshops? We have wonderful weather, no inversion, and the beautiful red rocks that can't be beat!

As part of our ongoing mission of educating businesses and organizations on the ADA, we will continue to network within our community. We do regular presentations, make phone calls, and staff in-service meetings whenever we get the opportunity. Our goal is to have the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community to be able to go to any business and request appropriate accommodations without the barrier of ignorance; this has been the goal since the ADA was established.

Terp Time



The Southern Utah Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program (SUDHHP) will sponsor *quarterly* interpreter workshops on the *3rd Saturday* of the designated month.

☀ More information will be posted as each workshop draws nearer. ☀

Save the Dates:

All workshops will be offered from 9am-12pm for .3 CEU/3 CEH (pending)

- March 21st - "Compassion vs Compassion Fatigue"
- May 16th - TBA
- July 18th - TBA
- November 21st - TBA

1067 East Tabernacle #10
St. George Utah 84770
435-673-8974 (v)
435-215-4029
mlisonbee@utah.gov

Please RSVP, Thank you

